E1-1755



Norfolk Southern Corporation Law Department Three Commercial Place Norfolk, Virginia 23510-9241

James R. Paschall Senior General Attorney

Writer's Direct Dial Number

(757) 629-2759 fax (757) 533-4872

March 17, 2005

Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re:

Docket No. AB-290 (Sub-No. 260X), Tennessee Railway Company

– Abandonment Exemption – Between Oneida, Tennessee and Nicks

<u>Creek, Tennessee - In Scott County, Tennessee - Petition for Exemption</u>

Dear Mr. Williams:

Enclosed for filing with the Board in the subject docket are an original and ten copies of the Army Corps of Engineers' response to the environmental report of Norfolk Southern Railway Company in connection with its Petition for Exemption to abandon the subject line of railroad between Milepost TE-0.95 near Oneida, TN and Milepost TE-27.96 near Nicks Creek, TN. The letter from the Corps states that the work described in the environmental report in connection with the abandonment of the Line would not impact the waters of the U.S., including wetlands, with deposition of fill or dredged material. Therefore, a permit would not be required for such work.

Very truly yours, J- & Barrell

James R. Paschall

Enclosure

cc w/ encl: Mr. Charles W. Kite General Counsel National Coal Corporation 8915 George Williams Road Knoxville, TN 37923

Mr. Vernon A. Williams Re: AB-290, Sub-No 260X March 17, 2005 Letter Page 2 of 2

cc w/ encl.

Mr. Kelvin J. Dowd Slover and Loftus 1224 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036-3003

Honorable Dwight Murphy, County Mayor Scott County P. O. Box 69 County Courthouse Huntsville, TN 27756-0069

Ms. Victoria Rutson, Chief Section of Environmental Analysis Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20423-0001

REPLY TO

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS 3701 Bell Road NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37214

March 3, 2005

ATTENTION OF: Regulatory Branch

SUBJECT: File No. 2005-00051; Proposed Abandonment of Railway Segment Between Milepost TE 0.95 and Milepost TE 27.96 from Oneida to Nick's Creek, Scott County, Tn

Mr. Larry G. Western Norfolk Southern Railway Company Environmental Protection Department 110 Franklin Road, SE (Box 13) Roanoke, VA 24042-0013

Dear Mr. Western:

This is in response to your letter dated December 3, 2004 requesting our review/comments of the subject proposal for Tennessee Railway Company.

Based on the information provided, the work would not impact waters of the U.S., including wetlands, with deposition of fill or dredged material. Therefore, a permit would not be required.

We appreciate your awareness of our regulatory program. If you have any questions, you can contact me at the above address, telephone (615) 369-7518, or by email at deborah.s.tuck@usace.army.mil.

Şincerely,

Deberah T. Tuck

Regulatory Specialist Operations Division

Copy Furnished:

CELRN-MCA-DAL/R, R. Smith

MAR 1 0 2005